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ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. **S1436/7005**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Huat et al.
Serial No. : Not assigned
Filed : Herewith
For : A STRESS-FREE LEAD FRAME

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

Please amend the specification by adding as the first section of the specification on page 1 the following new section:

Related Applications

This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 from Malaysian patent application serial number PI 20004237, filed September 13, 2000.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

3.(amended) A stress-free lead frame (1) as claimed in Claim 1 further characterised by said plurality of stress-relief means (15) being holes and slots.

4.(amended) A stress-free lead frame (1) as claimed in Claim 3 further characterised by said holes and slots being arranged in multiple rows.

5.(amended) A stress-free lead frame (1) as claimed in Claim 2 further characterised by said interlocking means (16) being a plurality of slots.

6.(amended) A stress-free lead frame (1) as claimed in Claim 4 further characterised in that said holes and slots are arranged side by side at equal intervals.

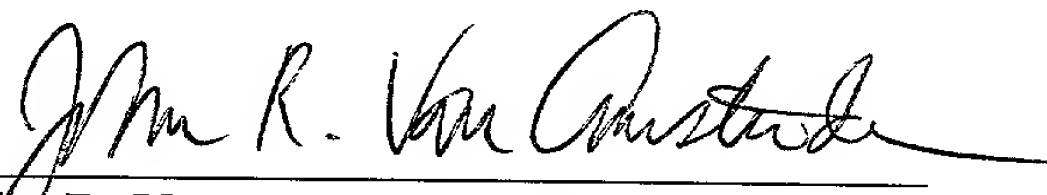
Please add the following new claim:

7.(new) A stress-free lead frame (1) as claimed in Claim 5 further characterised in that said holes and slots are arranged side by side at equal intervals.

Remarks

Applicant has amended the specification to include priority application information. The claims have been amended to correct drawing references and to correct claim dependencies. New claim 7 corresponds to a portion of original claim 6. No new matter has been added. Copies of the new section and amended claims are attached hereto on a separate page.

Respectfully submitted,


John R. Van Amsterdam, Reg. No. 40,212
Attorneys for Applicants
WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02210-2211
(617) 720-3500

Attorney Docket No. S1436/7005
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xNDD

Newly Added Section

Related Applications

This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 from Malaysian patent application serial number PI 20004237, filed September 13, 2000.

Amended Claims

3.(amended) A stress-free lead frame (1) as claimed in Claim 1 further characterised by said plurality of stress-relief means (15) [(12)] being holes and slots.

4.(amended) A stress-free lead frame (1) [(2)] as claimed in Claim 3 [1] further characterised by said holes and slots being arranged in multiple rows.

5.(amended) A stress-free lead frame (1) [(2)] as claimed in Claim 2 further characterised by said interlocking means (16) being a plurality of slots.

6.(amended) A stress-free lead frame (1) as claimed in Claim 4 [or Claim 5] further characterised in that [by] said holes and slots are arranged side by side at equal intervals.